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What is claimed is:

- 1. A building material, comprising:
- a fiber-reinforced cement formulation; and
- at least one low density additive incorporated into the formulation, wherein the at least one low density additive lowers the density of the building material as compared to a building material having an equivalent fiber-reinforced cement formulation without the low density additive, while at the same time the building material with the at least one low density additive has less than a 20% increase in moisture expansion as compared to a building material having an equivalent fiber-reinforced cement formulation without the at least one low density additive.

wherein the density of the building material is less than 1.2 g/cm³.

- 2. The building material of claim 1, wherein the density of the building material is about 0.9 to 1.1 g/cm³.
- 3. The building material of claim 1, wherein the low density 20 additive decreases the moisture expansion of the building material as compared to a building material having an equivalent fiber-reinforced cement formulation without the low density additive.
- **4**. The building material of claim **1**, wherein the median ²⁵ particle size of the low density additive is between about **20** and **120** micrometers.
- **5**. The building material of claim **1**, wherein the low density additive is volcanic ash incorporated up to about 2 to 50 wt. %.
- 6. The building material of claim 1, wherein the low density additive comprises microspheres incorporated up to about 2% to 90 wt. %.
- 7. The building material of claim 6, wherein the formulation further incorporates a different low density additive in addition to the microspheres.
- **8**. The building material of claim 7, wherein the different low density additive is a low bulk density calcium silicate hydrate incorporated up to about 30 wt. %.
- **9**. The building material of claim **1**, wherein the formulation incorporates greater than about 4 wt. % fibers.
- 10. A building material formulation used to form a building article, comprising:

a hydraulic binder;

an aggregate;

fibers; and

at least one low density additive incorporated into the formulation, wherein the at least one low density additive lowers the density of the building article as compared to a building article having an equivalent fiber-reinforced cement formulation without the low density additive, while at the same time the building article with the at least one low density additive has less than a 20% increase in moisture expansion as compared to a build-

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ing article having an equivalent fiber-reinforced cement formulation without the at least one low density additive:

wherein the density of the building article is less than 1.2 g/cm³.

- 11. The building material formulation of claim 10, wherein the hydraulic binder is Portland cement incorporated into the formulation at a range of between about 5 to 80 wt. %.
- 12. The building material formulation of claim 10, wherein the aggregate is a silica source incorporated into the formulation up to about 80 wt. %.
- 13. The building material formulation of claim 10, wherein the fiber is cellulose fiber incorporated into the formulation at a range of between about 4 to 15 wt. %.
- 14. The building material formulation of claim 10, wherein the at least one low density additive is one or more of expanded volcanic ash with a bulk density of about 2 to 25 lbs/cu. ft, microspheres, ceramic microspheres, and low bulk density calcium silicate hydrate.
- 15. The building material formulation of claim 10, wherein thermal shrinkage of the formed article is between about 1% and 5%.
- **16**. A method of forming a low density building material, comprising:

mixing a building material formulation with water to create a slurry, wherein the formulation comprises a hydraulic binder, fibers, aggregate, and at least one low density additive, wherein the at least one low density additive lowers the density of the building material as compared to a building material having an equivalent fiber-reinforced cement formulation without the low density additive, while at the same time the building material with the at least one low density additive has less than a 20% increase in moisture expansion as compared to a building article having an equivalent fiber-reinforced cement formulation without the at least one low density additive;

processing the slurry into a green shaped fiber cement building article; and

curing the green shaped fiber cement building article to form the low density building material,

wherein the low density building material when formed has a density of less than about 1.2 g/cm³.

- 17. The method of claim 16, further comprising mixing additives with the hydraulic binder, fibers, aggregate, at least 45 one low density additive and water to create the slurry.
 - 18. The method of claim 16, wherein moisture expansion of the formed low density building material is about 0.17% or less
 - 19. The method of claim 16, wherein the formed low density building material is cured by autoclaving.
 - 20. The method of claim 16, wherein thermal shrinkage of the formed low density building material is between about 1% and 5%.

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